

Opening Hymn: 636 How Firm a Foundation

¹ How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
to you that for refuge to Jesus have fled?

² "Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed!
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

³ "When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;
for I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

⁴ "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

People *His mercy endures forever*

Collect for Purity (Book of Common Prayer, pg. 355)

Kyrie (Sung) Hymnal, S92

Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us

Collect of the Day:

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: A Reading from Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 read by Marcia Weaver

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Psalm 27

Dominus illuminatio

Read responsively, led by Marcia Weaver

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? *
the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?

When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, *
it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.

Though an army should encamp against me, *
yet my heart shall not be afraid;

And though war should rise up against me, *
yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I asked of the LORD; one thing I seek; *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;

To behold the fair beauty of the LORD *
and to seek him in his temple.

For in the day of trouble he shall keep me safe in his shelter; *
he shall hide me in the secrecy of his dwelling and set me high upon a rock.

Even now he lifts up my head *
above my enemies round about me.

Therefore I will offer in his dwelling an oblation with sounds of great gladness; *
I will sing and make music to the LORD.

Hearken to my voice, O LORD, when I call; *
have mercy on me and answer me.

You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." *
Your face, LORD, will I seek.

Hide not your face from me, *
nor turn away your servant in displeasure.

You have been my helper; cast me not away; *
do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.

Though my father and my mother forsake me, *
the LORD will sustain me.

Show me your way, O LORD; *
lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.

Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, *
for false witnesses have risen up against me, and also those who speak malice.

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the LORD *
in the land of the living!

O tarry and await the LORD's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; *
wait patiently for the LORD.

A Reading from Paul's Epistle to the Philippians 3:17-4:1 read by Dennis DiVincenzo

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body

of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: *Thanks be to God*

Sequence Hymn 691 My Faith Looks Up to Thee (*Verses 1-2, Gospel, Verss 3*)

1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
be wholly thine

2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
O may my love to thee
pure, warm and changeless be,
a living fire.

3 While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day;
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 13:31-35

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ (Remain standing)*

Some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

Priest: The Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

People: *Praise to You, Lord Christ*

Homily: The Rev. Dr. Varghese Mathew

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People: led by Dennis DiVincenzo

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For all bishops, priests and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially.....

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life—those we name in our hearts, and also for those celebrating birthdays, including.....

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, especially.....

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Priest adds a Concluding Prayer

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Confession & Absolution: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution

Peace

Announcements

Special Prayers for Birthdays or Wedding Anniversaries

Offertory Anthem: O God Who on the Holy Mount Robert W. Lehman

Doxology (please stand) "Old Hundredth"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all people here below.
Praise him above ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

(Tithes and offerings are presented)

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great (BCP p. 361 (Eucharistic Prayer A) *Please stand as you are able*
Thanksgiving

Priest The Lord be with you
People And also with you
Priest Lift up your hearts
People We lift them up to the Lord
Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
People It is right to give him thanks and praise

Priest continues with Eucharistic Prayer A

Sanctus *(sung)* Hymnal S 131

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Power and Might: Heaven and earth are full of your Glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Priest continues with Eucharistic Prayer A

Memorial Acclamation *(Sung)* Hymnal S 135

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again

Amen *(sung)* Hymnal S 147

Priest continues with Eucharistic Prayer A

The Lords' Prayer

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People: Therefore let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei *(Sung)* Hymnal S 157

Oh Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Oh Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.
Oh Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace

Communion Hymn 343 Shepherd of Souls, Refresh and Bless

¹ Shepherd of souls, refresh and bless
thy chosen pilgrim flock
with manna in the wilderness,
with water from the rock.

² We would not live by bread alone,
but by thy word of grace,
in strength of which we travel on
to our abiding place.

³ Be known to us in breaking bread,
and do not then depart;
Saviour, abide with us, and spread
thy table in our heart.

⁴ Lord, sup with us in love divine,
thy Body and thy Blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine,
be our immortal food.

Communion Hymn 345 Savior Again, to Thy Dear Name We Raise

¹ Savior, again to thy dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon thy Name

² Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;
with thee began, with thee shall end the day;
from harm and danger keep thy children free,
for dark and light are both alike to thee.

³ Grant us thy peace, throughout our earthly life;
peace to thy Church from error and from strife;
peace to our land, the fruit of truth and love;
peace in each heart, thy Spirit from above:

⁴ thy peace in life, the balm of every pain,
thy peace in death, the hope to rise again.
then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.

Post-Communion Prayer (*Kneel*)

Book of Common Prayer p. 365

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 621 Light's Abode, Celestial Salem

¹ Light's abode, celestial Salem,
vision whence true peace doth spring,
brighter than the heart can fancy,
mansion of the highest King;
O how glorious are the praises
which of thee the prophets sing!

³ There no cloud nor passing vapor
dims the brightness of the air;
endless noonday, glorious noonday,
from the Sun of suns is there;
there no night brings rest from labor,
for unknown are toil and care.

² There for ever and for ever
alleluia is outpoured;
for unending, for unbroken
is the feast-day of the Lord;
all is pure and all is holy
that within thy walls is stored.

⁴ O how glorious and resplendent,
fragile body, shalt thou be,
when endued with heavenly beauty,
full of health, and strong, and free,
full of vigor, full of pleasure
that shall last eternally!

Dismissal

People: Thanks be to God